



INSIDE the alien spaceship in *Invaders From Mars*.

In *Invaders from Mars*, released this week by RCA/Columbia Pictures/Hoyts Video, is like a '50s sci-fi flick with an '80s feel to it.

David Gardner (Hunter Carson) is an 11-year-old who sees an alien craft landing behind a hill on his parents' property.

No one believes him, but then he notices his parents acting strangely. Others appear to come under an alien spell and David no longer knows who to trust.

Eventually he convinces the school nurse (Karen Black) that something very odd has happened and the pair seek help.

Carson and Black give good performances, but you've seen sci-fi thrillers like this before — dating back to the '50s.

The main difference with *Invaders From Mars* is the modern special effects and updated setting.

The makers of another release from the same company, *Stewardess School*, have tried for a film combining *Police Academy* and *Flying High*.

But the resulting movie, which tells the story of a group of misfits who must survive stewardess school and then a maiden, nightmare flight, falls short of the standards of both.

It's still watchable, with a couple of laughs and some cheap titillation, if you're looking for entertainment that won't stretch any brain muscles.

New views

Sydney Pollack's brilliant *Out of Africa* will be available on video this week.

The film, which won last year's Best Picture and six other Academy Awards, stars Meryl Streep as Karen Blixen, whose love affair with Africa begins in 1914 when she and her husband, Baron von Blixen, arrive in Kenya.

Despite setbacks including a disastrous marriage and a failed coffee plantation, her passion for Africa continues and she falls in love with adventurer Denys Finch Hatton (Robert Redford).

The film, released by CIC-Taft Video, is based on the life and writings of Isak Dinesen.

Other releases by CIC-Taft and THG Video this month include:

SWEET LIBERTY (PG). The life of a college history professor (Alan Alda) is turned upside down when a film company arrives to make a movie based on his best-selling book about the American revolution.

HIGH MIDNIGHT (M). An innocent man (David Birney) fights to clear his name after his wife and daughter are killed during a bungled narcotics raid led by a ruthless agent (Mike Connors).

FRAMED (R). A gambler (Joe Don Baker) sent to jail after a mysterious shoot-out plots his revenge.

STAR TREK (PG). Uncut episodes from the original TV series: *Where No Man Has Gone Before* and *The Corbomite Manoeuvre*.

Top 10

1. Ferris Bueller's Day Off.
2. The Boy Who Could Fly.
3. Back to School.
4. Poltergeist II.
5. The Hitcher.
6. Murphy's Law.
7. Big Trouble in Little China.
8. Kiss of the Spider Woman.
9. The Gods Must Be Crazy.
10. April Fool's Day.

Courtesy of Cooparoo Video.

VASECTOMY (M). A keen baseball fan (Paul Sorvino) wants his wife (Cassandra Edwards) to have a ninth child — enough for a baseball team — but she has other ideas.

STANDING TALL (M). A ruthless cattle baron (Chuck Connors) attempts to steal the land and cattle belonging to a rancher (Robert Forster) and his wife (Linda Evans).